# Dufala assassination trial continues

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CAMDEN, N.J. (AP) — An undercover Secret Service agent prodded a congressional aspirant in his plans last year to kill Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller despite his attempts to back out of it, the defense tried to show in federal court here Monday.

In other testimony, agent Michael Maddaloni said the Secret Service has not identified an FBI agent in Washington and a Philadelphia jeweler who defendant Robert A. Dufala told him also were involved in a secret John Birch Society assassination plot.

Maddaloni said the Secret Service now believes the plot never existed to kill Rockefeller, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and U.N. Ambassador Daniel P. Moynihan because the rightwing group feared the four were about to surrender to the Communists.

Dufala, 39, a Williamstown day-care center owner, is charged with threatening to kill Rockefeller with a cyanide bullet on July 2, 3 or 4. He was defeated in a June 8 primary election in a bid for the Republican nomination for the 2nd Congressional District.

A jury of seven men and five women Monday again began listening to government tape recordings of telephone conversations and a meeting between Dufala and Maddaloni.

The agent dominates the recordings, offering to supply automatic rifles, hand grenades, pistols, tear gas, poison and faked press credentials to be used in a general plan which he outlined.

Maddaloni repeatedly testified under cross-examination that Dufala asked him to supply the weapons and the plan as his part in the plot.

"You're pushing him, aren't you?" said Defense Attorney Philip Livolsi, "You're the one that's pushing for this assassination, aren't you?"

"I think that's a ridiculous comment that I'd push for assassination," Maddaloni replied.

Livolsi pointed to a number of excerpts where Dufala brought up obstacles to going through with the plot.

"You knew he was trying to get out of it and you put him back in it," he said.

Maddaloni said the Secret Service could not identify the FBI agent or the Philadelphia jeweler named Barry Barber who Dufala claimed were part of the assassination plan.

U.S. District Court Judge Stanley S. Brotman interrupted the cross-examination to ask Maddaloni if a plot existed at all.

"Not that we could determine, your honor," Maddaloni replied.

Maddaloni added: "At the time, we had some adverse intelligence of what might happen on the Fourth of July, not only in Philadelphia, but all over the nation...Now, I don't put much credence in (a plot)...but he threw a lot of names in it.

Maddaloni said Dufala pulled out of the plot in a June 14 telephone call.